

Amherst Public Arts Commission Meeting – April 4, 2013
First Floor Meeting Room, Amherst Town Hall

Called to order 4 p.m.

Present: Terry Rooney (Chair), Rachel Hankinson, Bonnie Isman, Randa Nachbar, Rene Theberge, and Lara and Colin (UMass Journalism students)

Absent: Rosario Gaddier, Jenny Lind, Jim Wald (Select Board liaison)

Terry reviewed APAC's role and recent projects as background for the visiting journalists.

Minutes of December 6, 2012 were approved as amended.

Fundraising for Kendrick Park sculpture. Terry posted a fundraising appeal for Matt Johnson's 'Portal' on the Amherst Biennial blog on Feb. 14, including the following recognition gifts:

For donations of \$1 - \$25, will receive a copy of the poster from the first Amherst Biennial. For the \$25 - \$99 Art Lovers will receive a copy of the poster and a personalized signed copy of the Biennial catalog by the artist, founder Terry Rooney & Matt Johnson. Donors for a \$100 & up will receive a signed Giclee by the sculptor, Matt Johnson. (also will receive special note on Biennial Page as an Art Angel) \$1000 donors will be listed on a bronze title plaque of the Portal sculpture in Kendrick Park.

Since then \$25.00 has been contributed. Rachel, as Treasurer, reported a balance of \$144.49 in our account. We need to raise \$3,000 to complete the contract for purchase. To do online fundraising, APAC needs a separate bank account which the Town needs to provide. Checks to APAC are tax deductible. We discussed various methods of fundraising and decided to follow Rene's suggestion of a 'House Party' at the Cohousing community on a Saturday in mid-May from 4-6 pm. Randa will see when the space is available. We will invite potential supporters, provide refreshments, and ask for personal donations. Terry and Rene will contact local banks for their financial support.

Biennial Update. Terry reported that Bank of America has taken down the artwork from 'Emily's Rhapsody'. Matt Johnson's work is still up at Hampshire College. William Brayton's work will be relocated to the rotary at Atkins Corner, as soon as he builds a new pedestal. The Amherst Biennial blog traffic continues and is up to 11,000 hits.

Terry announced that she will not seek another term on APAC when her current term is up in June. She first joined the Commission in 2004 and has been its chairperson for nearly 9 years. Now is the time for her to return to the studio. She has also been contacted by other organizations about setting up Biennial-type events. This will be a huge change for APAC, after the successful Biennials that Terry created in Amherst.

Town Hall Exhibits. Applications for exhibits at Town Hall were reviewed. The schedule will be:

- ✚ Dawn Siebel – (current artist) – oils, collage: March –May, 2013
- ✚ Ester White – prints of hands: June – August, 2013. Contact person is Rachel.
- ✚ Pioneer Valley Photo group – theme exhibit: September – November.
Contact person is Rene.
- ✚ Walter Hamilton – oils of local scenes: December – February, 2014. Contact person is Jenny or Bonnie
- ✚ Terry Rooney (after leaving the committee) – new work: March – May.

Terry will contact the artists with contracts, publicity suggestions, etc.

Artwork from ‘Emily’s Rhapsody’ can be used as a backup exhibit. APAC now has a storage area on the Town Manager’s Floor where the hanging rods and Art Walk banner are stored. Committee members can ask the Town Manager’s staff or the custodian for help finding the closet.

Adjourned 5:25 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 23 at 1 p.m.

Submitted by Bonnie Isman